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PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 21, 1908.

A Dead Claim Revitalized.

No congressman, on a single issue not national in its importance, has made more reputation than Hon. Frank Clark, of this state, in his advocacy of the refunding to the Southern States of the cotton tax illegally collected during and after the war up to 1868. That issue had become one of those well-nigh hopeless equitable claims upon the National Treasury, of which there have been many during the history of the government, until Mr. Clark, with the vigor of a new and ambitious congressman and the earnestness of intense conviction, took hold of it, revitalized it, and pressed it right home to the conscience of the republican majority in the house.

He has made a special study of this case involving nearly \$70,000,000 belonging justly to the Southern people, and is thoroughly familiar with every fact connected with it. Before the present session of congress he discussed the merits of the claim personally with many republican members, and was assured by them that it was just, and they would support a measure to refund the money. He has introduced that measure, and has recently advocated it by a most effective speech dealing purely with facts and figures and which put the case so convincingly that it made a great hit, not only with the house, but throughout the country, and has aroused and concentrated public sentiment in favor of the bill to a remarkable extent.

It was a profoundly discouraging task to take up this issue, for the claim had been steadily discredited by a republican congress ever since the war, but Mr. Clark has marshaled his facts and stated his case in a way never done before, and there are excellent reasons for believing that the present congress will take favorable action in the matter. The Gainesville Sun has this to say on the subject:

Hon. Frank Clark is receiving numerous requests from all parts of the country for copies of his speech recently made in the house of representatives relative to the refunding to the Southern States the money illegally collected as taxes on cotton between the years of 1861 and 1868. In his eloquent address Mr. Clark gave a full history of the situation and discussed most interestingly the question from a constitutional standpoint. He proved beyond a possible doubt that it was an outrage perpetrated only because "might made right."

Mr. Clark is now hard at work in bringing about a favorable sentiment to support a bill which he has introduced, which provides for refunding of \$68,000,000 of cotton tax money, which was in violation of the Federal constitution, levied and collected from the cotton states between the years of 1861 and 1868. The bill further provides that each state shall be pro-rated the amount of money paid to the government during this period as taxes at the time, provided bona fide claims be presented for the amount so paid. The amount of this fund remaining after the bona fide claims have been paid will be deposited in the treasury of the state.

For forty years has this unhealed injustice remained as a thorn in the flesh of all southerners, and an insult to the pride of our fair southland. In undertaking this work Mr. Clark is to be lauded for his noble purpose and already he is receiving assurance of support from all southern members, and even among the ranks of the republicans there is a murmur of approval. Mr. Clark entertains the expectation that he will be able to force this proposed legislation under serious consideration at an early date, and believes that it will ultimately be enacted into law.

John High, a vigorous writer, who has positive convictions and expresses them in English too plain to be mistaken, has purchased the interest of Dan Boynton, in the Jasper Banner of Liberty, and announces that he will run that paper in the interest of the people, even if it results in the eruption of shells in Georgia. A virile and popular platform and puts John on the right side of the fence right at the start.

The Tampa Tribune seems to have polled South Florida on the gubernatorial issue, and announces with confidence that eight men out of every

twelve in that section of the state are enthusiastic over the ultimate success of General Gilchrist. We have never doubted the strength of the genial General in that neck of the woods, but Florida is a mighty big state, and the Gilchrist boom has a long road to travel before it reaches the center of gravity.

Editor Hetherington, of the Lakeland News, has declined to be a candidate for the legislature, although warmly solicited to be one, and with good prospect of success. Now if an inferior man should be selected for the job, would not Editor Hetherington be estopped from criticism of his mistakes as a legislator? There is tempting opportunity for deep thinking and wise generalities on this point.

SOME HUMBLE AND NEGLECTED ARTS

Youth's Companion.

Old-fashioned people are today constantly discovering educational vices where they found educational virtues in their youth. One of the most frequent instances is the matter of letter-writing in what may be called its fundamental penmanship, capital, punctuation and proper division into sentences and paragraphs. School supervisors and teachers are aware of the complaint, and are trying to find a remedy. The vertical style of handwriting, which has had such vogue, is now under strong suspicion, and many educators have advocated a return to a more natural and individual system.

It must not be forgotten that business life, which is most prompt in the use of the pen, is in a way largely responsible for the conditions it condemns. The introduction of the type writer has discouraged the use of the pen; and the habit of condensing business letters to the briefest and most brusque catalogue of facts has devalued the art of form and played havoc with epistolary style. Most blameworthy of all, however, is a feeling that these are such rudimentary things in the great scheme of education that they are unimportant. Penmanship used to be regarded as an art, which was taught in special schools by "professors" who had "systems." Perhaps some measure of the old-time respect for these humble arts must be regained before the ability to write a respectable letter will again be acquired.—Youth's Companion.

COMMERCE OF THE GREAT LAKES

America's greatest waterway, the Great Lakes, is showing a steady increase in commerce. The volume for 1907, according to the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor, shows a 10 per cent increase over that of the previous year and a 20 per cent increase as compared to 1905. At this rate the Great Lakes will in a few years become one of the busiest channels of trade in the world.

Last year commerce reached the unprecedented total of \$3,337,919 net tons. The increase is due mainly to the larger ore and coal shipments, though the movement of grain and miscellaneous merchandise shows larger totals than for the preceding season, the only items showing smaller shipments being lumber and flour. The iron ore shipments for the year exclusive of about 275,000 tons exported to Canada, were 40,727,972 gross tons. More than 50 per cent of the total shipments are credited to the two ports of Duluth and Superior. The eastward grain movement for the season included 63,349,355 bushels of wheat, as compared with 47,726,773 bushels shipped during 1906.

A Daisy Dad. Molly—When you spoke to father, did you tell him you had \$500 in the bank? George—Yes. Molly—And what did he say? George—He borrowed it!—Sketchy Bits.

A lot of old newspapers, tied up in neat bundles for sale, 5c a bundle, at The Journal office.

Review of New Books In Pensacola Library

The Pensacola Library now occupies charming rooms in the Blount building, and the public is cordially invited to visit it and enjoy the privileges of the reading room between the hours of 4 and 7 p. m. The most recent acquisitions may be seen on the librarian's desk. Appended are some of the reviews concerning a few of them.

John Glynn. By Arthur Paterson. The scenes of the book are in London; it is a romance of the slums, at once a tragedy and a comedy of the poor and the depraved. John Glynn is a heroic figure—once a ranchman, now a gentleman of leisure; a man with men, tender to women. Sent to the worst section of the city, after various spirited episodes and some almost incredible escapades, he conquers the apparently unconquerable. We must concede to Mr. Paterson the gift of writing in a very pleasing style of English, and for entertainment that is not frivolous, let us recommend an acquaintance with John Glynn.—The Book News.

A Lost Leader. By Phillips Oppenheim. Mr. Oppenheim has made for himself a name as a clever writer of plot stories, and they have been successful because they preserve that consistency and appearance of reasonableness that even sensational tales should have. They show also, it is fair to add, some measure of skill in character-building and in easy dialogue. His new book, "A Lost Leader," ventures into the realm of politics, and even introduces the recent party strife in England over the tariff question. The story is readable enough, but not of great importance.—The Outlook.

Fraulein Schmidt and Mr. Anstruther. By the author of "Elizabeth and Her German Garden." Fraulein Schmidt gives us a collection of thumb-nail essays, errant fancies and opinions on life, literature, Shakespeare and the musical glasses, science, religion, death—anything, in short, that chances momentarily to swim to the surface from the rich depths of the writer's subconscious mentality. As in the famous Holmes's books the ethical purpose and graceful bits of philosophizing are woven around the personalities of living men and women in order to hold the interest of readers whose fancy for the abstract is easily satisfied. The kind of people whom one would naturally meet in a German university town are touched vividly but briefly into the picture of Fraulein Schmidt's life. The message of the book is very much the same as the problem of Shaw's "Candida." Which is richer, the person whose wealth of opportunity serves to scatter self-reliance and the power of direct vision or the man who, having nothing, yet possesses all things? Fraulein Schmidt, like Eugene Marchbanks, is a virtuoso in the art of living, how to live without happiness, and her book stands as a guidepost to those who would become similarly adept.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Mam' Linda. By Will N. Harben. Georgia is again the background of a new story by Will N. Harben. Southern in feeling, yet occupying a somewhat new attitude toward the negro, it tells the story of a young man, a white man, who is brought to the South. The story is a philosophical, which obliges him to "be some" occasionally, always works for the benefit of his friends. The young hero, a political aspirant, almost lost his life because he defended a worthless negro who was unjustly accused of a crime. The romance is inevitable in Southern novels is as wholesome and sweet as possible. Mam' Linda is the central figure in comedy and tragedy.—The Outlook.

Allice-for-Short. By Fred De Morgan. One can almost imagine what it must have felt like to be alive when Dickens and Thackeray were producing their great novels—so universal has been the talk of De Morgan, and so true is the story. The story is a house, of a hidden hut and a mysterious rite, of ghosts and criminals, but above all of a lovely little wife, Allice, called Allice for short. Her early life is checked by the miseries of a "lunatic environment," then she is adopted by a London artist, and the story is a tale of her life, her love, her interest, her mystery and romance.—The Book News.

VOX POPULI.

APPLY PRINCIPLES OF THE LIVING GOD.

Editor, Pensacola Journal: In reply to the query, "What is a man to do who is out of work in financial crisis and is starving?" I will say that the first thing this man should have done, if he was to have gotten in harmony with his Creator, the giver of all good and perfect gifts, by becoming reconciled unto God through His Son.

Hiding ourselves in Him and He in us, by God's grace, we can settle every question—individual, economic or social. For all things work together for good to them that love Him. First, seek ye the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. vi, 26-34). All of what things? All things pertaining to the needs mentioned in the verses that he sees best for us to have.

David says: "I have been young, and now I am old, yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." A man living in harmony with the divine law can say, as Job did, when everything was taken from him, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

He can thank God in adversity as well as prosperity. To a Christian there comes with every trial a way

Satan Sanderson. By Hattie Erminie Rives.

This story will go because of its clever illustrations, and its power to lead the interest unimpededly. Two young men, who make an appearance, come into contact in later years. Both had sowed a generous crop of wild oats, but Satan Sanderson—as he was known at college—had returned and entered the ministry. Hugh Stirling had gone from bad to worse until his father disowned him. The story begins at this point, and moves rapidly, involving Hugh and Sanderson in complications considerably augmented by their striking resemblance. The theme is old, but the book is entertaining, with little pretension to anything save the aim to amuse.—The Book News.

The Lady of the Decoration. By Frances Little.

The Lady of the Decoration is a youthful missionary, kindergarten teacher to Japan, and in the Flower Kingdom she remains for five years. During that time she begins to realize that the man at home to whom her thoughts most often revert is slowly falling in love with her best friend, the situation is harrowing; there are annoyances about teaching, there is homesickness and loneliness and despair. In this emergency the lady feels the need of something on which to vent her anger and grief—some mode of venting her pent-up wrath. She procures a doll equipped with a ball-bearing nervous system, and which, being knocked over, immediately again assumes an upright position. She names the doll Susie Dam, and when Fate gives a turn to the thumb screws, the lady snaps over Susie Dam several times, and on the receipt of a peculiarly harrowing letter about peaceful developments at home, she slaps her all the way downstairs. The Lady of the Decoration is very delightful, and the book sparkles from start to finish and affords uninterrupted amusement.—The Critic.

The Shuttle. By Frances Hodgson Burnett.

An Englishman of broken-down estate seeks a marriage of convenience in America. He woos and wins Rosalie Vanderpool, daughter of a New York multimillionaire. He marries her, awakens somewhat suddenly to the fact that his wife's fortune is her own and not his, and therewith pursues a method of brutal subjugation that ends in making the beautiful Mrs. Vanderpool a dowdy, little old woman before she is thirty, cut off from her family and friends, and deprived of her money, with furthermore, a young son who is a cripple and a hunchback. This, however, is but the beginning of the tale. Rosalie has a sister, a mere child at the time of her marriage. Betty grows up, an independent, broad-minded young woman, the typical American girl, of the best order. She goes abroad to discover what has happened to her sister, arrives during the absence of Sir Nigel on the Continent, and takes in the situation almost at a glance. When the master of Stormham Court returns he finds his property undergoing renovation of an extensive order, his wife grown quite pretty again, and exhibiting some slight access of courage; and a new sister-in-law, overwhelmingly beautiful and still more overwhelmingly self-sufficient. She goes abroad to discover what has happened to her sister, arrives during the absence of Sir Nigel on the Continent, and takes in the situation almost at a glance. When the master of Stormham Court returns he finds his property undergoing renovation of an extensive order, his wife grown quite pretty again, and exhibiting some slight access of courage; and a new sister-in-law, overwhelmingly beautiful and still more overwhelmingly self-sufficient. She goes abroad to discover what has happened to her sister, arrives during the absence of Sir Nigel on the Continent, and takes in the situation almost at a glance. 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